

REMARKS

In the Restriction/Election Requirement mailed February 28, 2006, an election was required among the following species:

Species I: Claims 1-4 and 9-13, matching the spectral dependence of a monitor of amplitude fluctuations of a multi-line laser source to the spectral dependence of a desired signal, forming a matched monitor signal; subtracting the matched monitor signal from the desired signal.

Species II: Claims 5-8 and 19-20, passing a portion of the output of a multi-line laser through a spectrally flat optic, forming a laser monitor signal; monitoring the desired signal; adjusting the intensity of the laser monitor signal so that laser amplitude fluctuations in the desired signal and the laser monitor signal are equal, forming a corrected signal; subtracting the corrected signal from the desired signal.

Species III: Claims 14-16, a laser cavity having output along a laser beam axis; an output coupler coupled to one end of the laser cavity along the laser beam axis; an optional compensating optic in optical communication with the output coupler; an output detector in optical communication with the compensating optic; a gain adjusting element in electrical communication with the output detector; a scattered light detector at a selected angle away from the laser beam axis; a differencing junction in electrical communication with the gain adjusting element and in electrical communication with the scattered light detector.

Species IV: Claims 17-18, passing a portion of the output of the multi-line laser through a spectrally flat output coupler, forming a laser monitor signal; comparing a desired laser output setpoint to the intensity of the laser monitor signal; adjusting the laser output so that the intensity of the laser monitor signal is the

same as the desired laser output setpoint; whereby the laser amplitude fluctuation noise in the desired signal is reduced.

In response, applicant elects species I, claims 1-4 and 9-13, with traverse. Species I, II and IV are related as methods for reducing noise from laser amplitude fluctuations in a desired signal. Species III is a laser scattering system having reduced noise. These species are all related in the basic steps involved in reducing laser amplitude fluctuation noise. At the very least, it is not believed a search of Species I and II would be burdensome because Species I and II require a monitoring of a laser source signal and the subtraction of a monitor signal from a desired signal.

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the species election is respectfully requested.

New claims 21-22 have been added which further specify steps in the method. New claims 21-22 are supported by the specification as filed on page 7, lines 14-16 and Figure 1, for example. No new matter is added by any claim. New claims 21-22 are dependent from claim 1 and are included in the elected species.

Please deduct the fee of \$50 for two claims in excess of twenty and any additional fees, including the fees for any extensions of time required, from Deposit Account No. 07-1969.

Respectfully submitted,

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